

At the Regular Meeting of the Greenville County Water and Sewer Authority held on Monday, December 7, 2020, with Regular Session beginning at the conclusion of the Board of Supervisors meeting, via Live Stream due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, at the Golden Leaf Commons, 1300 Greenville County Circle, Emporia, Virginia.

Present: William B. Cain, Chairman  
James R. Brown, Vice-Chairman  
Tony M. Conwell  
Belinda D. Astrop

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Chairman Cain called the meeting to order.

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In Re: Closed Session

Chairman Cain recommended the Authority go into Closed Session, Section 2.2-3711 (a)  
1) Personnel Matters.

Mr. Conwell moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to go into Closed Session, as recommended. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mrs. Astrop, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; Mr. Conwell, aye and Chairman Cain, aye.

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In Re: Regular Session

Chairman Cain recommended the Authority return to Regular Session.

Mr. Conwell moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to go into Regular Session. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mrs. Astrop, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; Mr. Conwell, aye and Chairman Cain, aye.

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In Re: Certification of Closed Meeting – Resolution #WS-21-17

Mr. Conwell moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to adopt the following Resolution. A roll call vote was taken, as follows: Mrs. Astrop, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; Mr. Conwell, aye and Chairman Cain, aye.

**RESOLUTION #WS-21-17**  
**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

**WHEREAS**, the Greenville Water and Sewer Authority has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Greenville County Water and Sewer Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Greenville County Water and Sewer Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Greenville County Water and Sewer Authority.

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In Re: Approval of Agenda

Chairman Cain recommended approval of the Agenda with no added items.

Mr. Conwell moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to approve the Agenda, as submitted. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mrs. Astrop, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; Mr. Conwell, aye and Chairman Cain, aye.

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In Re: Approval of the Consent Agenda

Chairman Cain recommended approval of the Consent Agenda containing the following items:

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Approval of Minutes for November 16, 2020.

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Budgetary Matters consisting of the following: Fund #001 – Re-Appropriations Resolution #WS-21-18, in the amount of, \$1,694 and Fund #001 & #002 - Budget Amendment Resolution #WS-21-19, in the amount of \$15,000, both of which are incorporated herein by reference.

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Warrants:

Approval of Total Accounts Payable for December 7, 2020, in the amount of, \$193,263.05

Approval of General Accounts Payable, in the amount of, \$189,170.55

Approval of Special Projects, in the amount of, \$4,092.50

Mr. Conwell moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to approve the Consent Agenda. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mrs. Astrop, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; Mr. Conwell, aye and Chairman Cain, aye.

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Re: Resolution #WS-21-20 – Governor’s Moratorium on Utilities Disconnections

Mrs. Lois Powell, Customer Accounts Manager, addressed the Authority and read the following resolution into record. She then requested approval of Resolution #WS-21-20.

**RESOLUTION #WS-21-20**  
**Governor’s Moratorium on Utility Disconnections**

**WHEREAS**, On November 18, 2020, Governor Ralph Northam signed House Bill 5005, Virginia’s revised biennial budget. The Governor called the General Assembly into special session on August 18 and has worked with legislative leaders to enact a spending plan that protects key priorities, preserves the Commonwealth’s financial options, and addresses critical challenges that Virginians are facing amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, The budget signed today includes \$100 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to support jurisdictional and municipal utility customers facing financial hardship due to the public health crisis. It also directs the State Corporation Commission to establish an application process for distributing the funds to utilities so they can efficiently provide direct assistance to eligible customers; and

**WHEREAS**, The budget also puts in place a moratorium on utility disconnections, including water and electricity, which will remain in effect until the Governor determines that the economic and public health conditions have improved such that the prohibition does not need to be in place or until at least 60 days after the declared state of emergency ends. The budget includes protections for utility providers dealing with revenue shortfalls and establishes a repayment plan to give customers the opportunity to pay off back debt over a longer period; and

**WHEREAS**, the essential water and sewer services provided by GCWSA are funded through revenues generated from metered sales. Although service disconnections have been suspended during the time period covered in the initial SCC order and extension orders, charges are accruing and customers are responsible for payment of their water and sewer bill; and

**IT IS, THEREFORE, HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Greenville County Water & Sewer Authority approve the following:

- 1) Customers in the arrears are encouraged to contact the Customer Service Manager, Lois Powell, to set up a 12-month payment plan. Customers who have entered into such extended payment plans and are current thereon, shall not be charged late penalties; and
- 2) Governor Ralph Northam's moratorium on utility disconnections, including water, which will remain in effect until the Governor determines that the economic and public health conditions have improved such that the prohibition does not need to be in place or until at least 60 days after the declared state of emergency ends.

Mr. Conwell moved, seconded by Mrs. Astrop, to approve Resolution #WS-21-20. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mrs. Astrop, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; Mr. Conwell, aye and Chairman Cain, aye.

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In Re: GCWSA - E-Services

Mrs. Powell stated that Staff was working on the E-Services through BAI. She stated included in the Board's package, was a brochure that was created and mailed to every customer in the monthly billing history. She also stated that customers had called and were very excited by the new E-Services. Mrs. Powell further stated that the customers were able to see their history, the amount due, the usage, etc. She stated there was a link on the webpage that would take the customer directly to the E-Services screen. She also stated that in the future, the customer would be able to pay their bill using the new E-Services.

Chairman Astrop stated that she was very excited about the new features and stated that it would help the customers a lot to be able to view their account.

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In Re: Miscellaneous Matters

Chairman Cain stated that the Staff Work Programs and Staff Meeting Meetings were prepared for the Authority's review. He asked if there were any questions. There was none.

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Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Conwell moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mrs. Astrop, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; Mr. Conwell, aye and Chairman Cain, aye.

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William B. Cain, Chairman  
Greenville County Water and Sewer Authority